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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Arudi et al.

Title: DISPERSIBLE PROTEIN

COMPOSITION

Appl. No.: 10/814,434

Filing Date: 03/31/2004

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Art Unit:

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Carolyn Simpson

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR §1.56

Mail Stop AMENDMENT Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form PTO/SB/08 is a listing of documents known to Applicants in order to comply with Applicants' duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56.

A copy of each non-U.S. patent document and each non-patent document is being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 CFR §1.97 and §1.98.

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b). Applicants do not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a *prima facie* art reference against the claims of the present application.

TIMING OF THE DISCLOSURE

The listed documents are being submitted in compliance with 37 CFR §1.97(b), before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits.

RELEVANCE OF EACH DOCUMENT

An English abstract for DE 39 01 056 states: "The present invention relates to a process for the preparation of a chocolate powder having improved properties with regard to flavour and solubility, this process comprising - preparation of a lecithin-enriched cocoa powder; - addition to the lecithin-enriched cocoa powder of ingredients such as sucrose, dextrose, lactose and common salt, to give a powder mixture; and - processing to give particles of a size greater than 5 mm."

An English abstract for DE 1 934 649 states: "Instant coca drink with lecithin mix to give homogenous blend. 70-90% of the capacity of the mixer is filled with cocoa powder and a metered amount of lecithin, these are then mixed and stirred without access of air. The mixer is a stationary container with peg mills inside together with stirrers and circulators. Circulators rotate more slowly than the mill, and an airtight lid is fitted."

An English abstract for EP 0 379 023 states: "The present invention relates to a process for the preparation of a chocolate powder having improved properties with regard to flavour and solubility, this process comprising - preparation of a lecithin-enriched cocoa powder; - addition to the lecithin-enriched cocoa powder of ingredients such as sucrose, dextrose, lactose and common salt, to give a powder mixture; and - processing to give particles of a size greater than 5 mm."

An English abstract for JP 2000-342183 states: "PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED: To obtain a solid instant cocoa with excellent meltability, flavor and palate feeling, takable even directly by adding an emulsifier to a stock such as cocoa powder to make an oil-in-water type emulsified product which is then dried under specific conditions and cut to pieces. SOLUTION: This solid instant cocoa is obtained by the following steps: an emulsifier spiked with pref. 0.1-0.7 wt.% of lecithin is added to a stock comprising cocoa powder, carbohydrates and pref. 0.5-3 wt.% of gelatin with an oil fraction of the total solid content

being 2-40 wt.%, water is then added to the resultant mixture to effect dissolution so as to be 15-25 wt.% in water content to make an oil-in-water type emulsified product which, in turn, vacuum- dried at <=90 deg.C without freezing to afford a block-shaped dried product which is then coarsely crushed or cut to pieces to obtain the objective solid instant cocoa with a bulk density of 0.05-0.12 g/mL and a size of 550 mm× 50 mm."

An English abstract for JP 2000-125767 states: "PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED: To obtain a cocoa powder having an emulsifier uniformly attached to the cocoa powder and excellent in properties to be dispersed and dissolved, and further to provide a method for producing the conditioned cocoa. SOLUTION: This easily soluble cocoa is obtained by adding an emulsifier to kibble obtained by cracking a cocoa cake, mixing the kibble with the added emulsifier to disperse the emulsifier, and milling the resultant mixture. The easily soluble conditioned cocoa is obtained by adding at least one kind selected from saccharides, milk products and other edible materials to the obtained cocoa powder."

An English abstract for JP 9-275905 states: "PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED: To obtain the subject composition, comprising a diglycerol monoester of a fatty acid as an active ingredient, capable of improving the water wettability of cocoa powder, facilitating the dispersion in hot water and making undissolved lumps thereof hardly form when added and mixed therewith. SOLUTION: This water wettability improver composition for cocoa comprises a diglycerol monoester of a fatty acid (the number of carbon atoms in constituent fatty acids is 8-22, preferably 16-22) as an active ingredient. An oil and fat such as soybean oil, rapeseed oil, cotton seed oil or corn oil (preferably a liquid oil and fat at normal temperatures) may be mixed therein."

An English abstract for JP 7-87893 states: "PURPOSE:To obtain a granular cocoa easily soluble and dispersible in cold water and keeping the solubility and dispersibility even after long-term storage by mixing a hydrophilic polyglycerol fatty acid ester with a lipophilic polyglycerol fatty acid ester and spraying the mixture on cocoa powder. CONSTITUTION:A hydrophilic polyglycerol fatty acid ester is mixed with a lipophilic polyglycerol fatty acid ester and the mixture is sprayed on cocoa powder. The lipophilic polyglycerol fatty acid ester

acts as a binder and the hydrophilic polyglycerol fatty acid ester improves the solubility and dispersibility of cocoa."

An English abstract for JP 7-87892 states: "PURPOSE:To improve the solubility and dispersibility of cocoa in cold water and the durability of the dissolved or dispersed state after a long-term storage by dissolving and dispersing a lipophilic polyglycerol fatty acid ester and a hydrophilic polyglycerol fatty acid ester in an oil and fat and spraying the dispersion to granulated cocoa powder. CONSTITUTION:A solution produced by dissolving a lipophilic polyglycerol fatty acid ester and a hydrophilic polyglycerol fatty acid ester in an oil and fat is sprayed on coca granules produced by granulating cocoa powder. The surface and the inner surface of pores of the granule are covered with the lipophilic polyglycerol fatty acid ester and the hydrophilic polyglycerol fatty acid ester by this process. The solubility and dispersibility attained by the hydrophilic polyglycerol fatty acid ester can be maintained even after a long-term storage by the lipophilic polyglycerol fatty acid ester."

An English abstract for JP 5-15349 states: "PURPOSE:To prepare the subject drink resistant to the degradation with heat- resistant flat sour bacteria and stably preservable over a long period by using a sucrose fatty acid ester and citric acid monoglyceride as an emulsifier. CONSTITUTION:The objective fat-containing drink packed in a sealed vessel (preferably milk coffee, cocoa, milk tea or soup) contains an emulsifier consisting of a sucrose fatty acid ester (preferably having an HLB of >=13) and citric acid monoglyceride."

An English abstract for JP 3-155748 states: "PURPOSE:To obtain cocoa, readily wettable even with cold water, dispersible and soluble therein by converting lecithin into an O/W type emulsified composition, adding the resultant composition to a molten cacao mass, stirring the mixture and pressing an oil therefrom. CONSTITUTION:The objective cocoa obtained by converting lecithin into an O/W type emulsified composition, adding the resultant composition preferably together with cocoa butter and/or polyglycerol ester of condensed ricinoleic acid to a molten cacao mass, stirring the mixture and then pressing an oil therefrom."

An English abstract for JP 62-272941 states: "PURPOSE:To obtain cocoa powder soluble in water, especially cold water, by keeping cocoa powder under heating at >=melting point of fats contained in the cocoa powder and spraying low-viscosity lecithin upon the cocoa powder. CONSTITUTION:Cocoa powder (about 10-24% fat content) is heated to >=melting point of fats contained in the cocoa powder, namely >=36 deg.C (preferably about 50 deg.C). The cocoa powder is made in a fluidized state while keeping at the temperature and low-viscosity lecithin in a sprayed state is added to the cocoa powder. Consequently, the lecithin is stuck to the surface of cocoa particles and the surface is coated with the lecithin to give the aimed cocoa. Lecithin having <=3,000cps viscosity measured at 20 deg.C is designated as the low-viscosity lecithin. The effects are not shown when the amount of the low-viscosity lecithin is small, based on the cocoa powder and the cocoa powder becomes granules or has an offensive smell when the amount of the lecithin is large, so the amount is preferably 1-10%."

An English abstract for JP 62-126966 states: "PURPOSE:To improve the dispersibility, solubility, etc. in cold water without deteriorating flavor, safety, etc., by blending sterol (derivative) with an instant powder composition containing lecithin used as an emulsifying agent. CONSTITUTION:An instant powder, e.g. coffee, cocoa, soup, etc., is produced. In the process, lecithin and sterol or a derivative thereof are used together as an emulsifying agent and contained to give the titled instant powder composition. Cholesterol, sitosterol, ergosterol, etc., may be used as the sterol and vegetable sterol, e.g. soybean sterol, is preferably used from the viewpoint of safety, price, quality, etc. Since too much sterol added inhibits the function of the lecithin and sufficient effect is not obtained, the amount thereof is preferably <=5% based on the lecithin."

An English abstract for JP 62-104554 states: "PURPOSE:The titled composition having improved dispersibility and solubility in cold water and improved flavor, obtained by blending instant powder with both lecithin and a small amount of a hydroxy acid or hydroxy acid-alcohol ester. CONSTITUTION:(A) Instant powder such as soup, cocoa, coffee, protein powder, milk powder, etc. is blended with (B) 1-0.1wt% powdery or pasty lecithin and (C) 0.02-1wt% (based on the component B) of a hydroxy acid (lactic acid) or mono or diester of

the hydroxy acid and an alcohol (e.g., glycerin). The amount of the component C added is tens - several ppm based on the instant powder."

An English abstract for JP 59-91845 states: "PURPOSE:To improve the taste and flavor of a coffee or cocoa drink, by converting a coffee extract or a cocoa drink containing proteins, oils or fats, emulsifiers, polysaccharides, and edible acidic substances, to an acidic O/W-type emulsion. CONSTITUTION:A coffee extract or a cocoa (or chocolate) drink is added with proteins, oils or fats, emulsifiers, polysaccharides and edible acidic substances, and converted to an acidic O/W-type emulsion. When an additive containing protein is to be dissolved in a coffee drink, etc. having an acidic nature of <=4.5 pH with an acidic substance, it is necessary to add oils or fats to the drink, etc. to prevent the coagulation and separation of the components. Since the addition of oils or fats to the acidic coffee drink, etc. causes separation, it is necessary to add emulsifiers and polysaccharides to prevent the separation."

An English abstract for JP 58-146238 states: "PURPOSE:To prepare cocoa which can be dispersed and dissolved even in cold water or milk, by granulating cocoa powder, fluidizing the granules, spraying a surface active agent dissolved in liquid oil or fat, and contacting and mixing the solution with the granules. CONSTITUTION:Cocoa powder or a mixture of cocoa powder with sugar, powdered milk, etc. is granulated e.g. by mixing cocoa powder with an aqueous solution of a binder, and drying the obtained wet granules. The granules are fluidized, and sprayed with a surface active agent such as glycerine fatty acid ester dissolved or dispersed in liquid oil or fat. The granules are contacted and mixed with the surface active agent by this procedure, and coated with the surface active agent at the surface of the granule and the inner surface of the voids of the granule. The amount of the liquid oil or fat containing the dispersed or dissolved surface active agent is 1-10pts. per 100pts. of the granule, and that of the surface active agent is 1.5-60pts. per 100pts. of the liquid oil or fat."

An English translation of the foreign-language documents is not readily available. However, the absence of such translation does not relieve the PTO from its duty to consider the submitted foreign language documents (37 CFR §1.98 and MPEP §609).

Applicants respectfully request that any listed document be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO/SB/08 be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 CFR §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 06-1447. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 06-1447.

Respectfully submitted,

Date March 3, 2005

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MODIFIED PTO/SB/08 (08-00)

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U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Substitute for fo	rm 1449B/	PTO	Complete if Known					
INFORMATION	DISCLO	SURE	Application Number	10/814,434				
STATEMENT B	Y APPLI	CANT	Filing Date	03/31/2004				
Date Submitted:	· March 3	2005	First Named Inventor	Ravindra L. Arudi				
Date Submitted.	. Maich S,	, 2003	Group Art Unit	To Be Determined				
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1	of	2	Attorney Docket Number	CGL03/0182US1				

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.1	U.S. Patent D	Kind Code ² (if	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
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Sheet

Examiner	Date
Signature	Considered

^{*}EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ²See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031

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	Substitute for form	1449B/	PTO	Complete if Known		
	INFORMATION DI	SCLO	SURE	Application Number	10/814,434	
	STATEMENT BY	APPLI	CANT	Filing Date	03/31/2004	
Date Submitted: March 3, 2005				First Named Inventor	Ravindra L. Arudi	
				Group Art Unit	To Be Determined	
(use as many sheets as necessary)				Examiner Name	To Be Determined	
Sheet	2	of	2	Attorney Docket Number	CGL03/0182US1	

				FC	DREIGN PATENT DOCUMEN	TS		
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.1	Foreign Patent Document Office ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Documents	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
	A41	BE	BE 775206		Schapiro	05-10-1972		
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NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.) date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ⁶			

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Signature	Considered

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